

# The Lord's Prayer

## Study Guide

Rev. Don Allen, Jr.



# Introduction

Over the years I (Dr. Don Allen, Jr.) have been taught about prayer by some great men. These men were able to walk into the throne room of God, crawl onto the very lap of God the Father, and share their petitions with HIM. They all shared how they learned to pray the Lord's Prayer and use it as the foundation for their powerful prayer life.

Prayer is a privilege we ALL have been given. God has promised to always answer our prayers, maybe not the way we want or expect. A pastor friend of mine used to tell me God will answer in one of three ways, "Yes" "No" or "Maybe ", but, HE ALWAYS ANSWERS.

As Christians, we should develop an understanding of the privilege we have in prayer. It is a time to acknowledge God's greatness, thank HIM for His faithfulness, and share our hearts and minds as we would with our best friend. We lay before HIM our troubles, conflicts, needs, and most importantly our joys.

The disciples asked the Lord, teach us to  
pray,

Through the Lord's Prayer He taught  
them...

† The Manner of Prayer

† The Method of Prayer

† The Matter of Prayer

### **Another simple outline**

#### ***Prayer is...***

† A time of exalting and praise

† A time of asking

† A time of saying I'm sorry

# Definitions

† **The Easton Dictionary**: “LORD’S PRAYER the name given to the only form of prayer Christ taught his disciples (Matthew 6:9-13). The closing doxology of the prayer is omitted by Luke (11:2-4), also in the R.V. of Matthew 6:13. This prayer contains no allusion to the atonement of Christ, or to the offices of the Holy Spirit. “All Christian prayer is based on the Lord’s Prayer, but its spirit is also guided by that of His prayer in Gethsemane and of the prayer recorded John 17. The Lord’s Prayer is the comprehensive type of the simplest and most universal prayer.”<sup>1</sup>

† **Parsons Bible Dictionary** ... “Lord’s Prayer THE NAME GIVEN TO THE ONLY FORM OF PRAYER CHRIST TAUGHT HIS DISCIPLES (Matt. 6:9-13). The closing doxology of the prayer is omitted by Luke (Luke 11:2-4), also in the RV of Matt. 6:13. This prayer contains no allusion to the atonement of Christ, or to the offices of the Holy Spirit. “All Christian prayer is based on the Lord’s Prayer, but its spirit is also guided by that of His prayer in Gethsemane and of the prayer recorded John 17. The Lord’s Prayer is the comprehensive type of the simplest and most universal prayer.”<sup>2</sup>

† **International Standard Bible Encyclopedia** “The Lord’s Prayer, ([Mt 6:9-13](#); [Lk 11:2-4](#)): Prayer occupied an important place in the life and the teachings of Jesus. He was emphatically a man of prayer, praying frequently in private and in public, and occasionally spending whole nights in communion with His heavenly Father. He often spoke to His disciples on the subject of prayer, cautioning them against ostentation, or urging perseverance, faith and large expectation, and He gave them a model of devotion in the Lord’s Prayer.”<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> EASTONS BIBLE DICTIONARY by M. G. Easton

<sup>2</sup>Parsons Bible Dictionary Electronic Edition STEP Files Copyright © 1999, Findex.com, Inc. All rights reserved.

# **The Merriam-Webster Dictionary**

## **Definition of *PRAYER***

1. *a* (1): an address (as a petition) to God or a god in word or thought <said a *prayer* for the success of the voyage> (2): a set order of words used in praying *b*: an earnest request or wish
2. the act or practice of praying to God or a god <kneeling in *prayer*>
3. a religious service consisting chiefly of prayers —often used in plural
4. something prayed for
5. a slight chance <haven't got a *prayer*>"<sup>4</sup>

## **Another Definition of prayer**

"A privilege and an obligation of the Christian where we communicate with God. It is how we convey our confession (1 John 1:9), requests (1 Tim. 2:1-3), intercessions (James 5:15), thanksgiving (Phil. 4:6), etc., to our holy God. We are commanded to pray (1 Thess. 5:17).

Some personal requirements of prayer are a pure heart (Psalm 66:18), belief in Christ (John 14:12-14), and that the prayer be according to God's will (1 John 5:14). We can pray standing (Neh. 9:5), kneeling (Ezra 9:5), sitting (1 Chron. 17:16-27), bowing (Exodus 34:8), and with lifted hands (1 Tim. 2:8)"<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> INTERNATIONAL STANDARD BIBLE ENCYCLOPEDIA, James Orr, M.A., D.D., General Editor

<sup>4</sup><http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/prayer>

<sup>5</sup> Christian Apologetics & Research Ministry © Matthew J. Slick, 1995 - 2010  
<http://carm.org/dictionary-prayer>

# The Lord's Prayer in original Greek

(Greek)

*ΠΑΤΕΡ ΗΜΩΝ Ο ΕΝ ΤΟΙΣ ΟΥΡΑΝΟΙΣ  
ΑΓΙΑΣΘΗΤΩ ΤΟ ΟΝΟΜΑ ΣΟΥ  
ΕΛΘΕΤΩ Η ΒΑΣΙΛΕΙΑ ΣΟΥ  
ΓΕΝΗΘΗΤΩ ΤΟ ΘΕΛΗΜΑ ΣΟΥ,  
ΩΣ ΕΝ ΟΥΡΑΝΩ ΚΑΙ ΕΠΙ ΤΗΣ ΓΗΣ  
ΤΟΝ ΑΡΤΟΝ ΗΜΩΝ ΤΟΝ ΕΠΙΟΥΣΙΟΝ  
ΔΟΣ ΗΜΙΝ ΣΗΜΕΡΟΝ  
ΚΑΙ ΑΦΕΣ ΗΜΙΝ ΤΑ ΟΦΕΙΛΗΜΑΤΑ ΗΜΩΝ,  
ΩΣ ΚΑΙ ΗΜΕΙΣ ΑΦΙΕΜΕΝ ΤΟΙΣ ΟΦΕΙΛΕΤΑΙΣ ΗΜΩΝ  
ΚΑΙ ΜΗ ΕΙΣΕΝΕΓΚΗΣ ΗΜΑΣ ΕΙΣ ΠΕΙΡΑΣΜΟΝ,  
ΑΛΛΑ ΡΥΣΑΙ ΗΜΑΣ ΑΠΟ ΤΟΥ ΠΟΝΗΡΟΥ.  
ΑΜΗΝ.<sup>6</sup>*

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<sup>6</sup>[http://www.lords-prayer-words.com/lord\\_greek\\_transliteration\\_text.html](http://www.lords-prayer-words.com/lord_greek_transliteration_text.html)  
Study-guide on the Lord's Prayer, Copyright 8/3/2020 (updated  
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# The Lord's Prayer within Scripture

## **Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV, ©2010)**

<sup>9</sup> “This, then, is how you should pray:

“‘Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
<sup>10</sup> your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Give us today our daily bread.

<sup>12</sup> And forgive us our debts,  
as we also have forgiven our debtors.

<sup>13</sup> And lead us not into temptation (testing),  
but deliver us from the evil one.’

## **Matthew 6:9-13 (Amplified Bible)**

9Pray, therefore, like this:

Our Father

Who is in heaven, hallowed (kept holy) be Your name.

10Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in  
heaven.

11Give us this day our daily bread.

12And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven  
([a]left, remitted, and let go of the debts, and have [b]given  
up resentment against) our debtors.

13And lead (bring) us not into temptation, but deliver us  
from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and  
the glory forever. Amen.

## **Luke 11: 1 - 4 (NIV 2010)**

<sup>1</sup> One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples."

<sup>2</sup> He said to them, "When you pray, say:

"Father,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread.

<sup>4</sup> Forgive us our sins,  
for we also forgive everyone who sins against us.  
And lead us not into temptation."

Another Look at this verse:

## **Luke 11:1-4 (New Century Version)**

Jesus Teaches About Prayer

1 One time Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his followers said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray as John taught his followers."

2 Jesus said to them, "When you pray, say:

'Father, may your name always be kept holy.  
May your kingdom come.

3 Give us the food we need for each day.

4 Forgive us for our sins,  
because we forgive everyone who has done wrong to us.  
And do not cause us to be tempted.' "



# Commentaries

- **Matthew Henry Commentary:** (Luke 11: 1-4)
  - “Lord, teach us to pray,” is a good prayer, and a very needful one, for Jesus Christ only can teach us, by his word and Spirit, how to pray. Lord, teach me what it is to pray; Lord, stir up and quicken me to the duty; Lord, direct me what to pray for; teach me what I should say. Christ taught them a prayer, much the same that he had given before in his sermon upon the mount. There are some differences in the words of the Lord's prayer in Matthew and in Luke, but they are of no moment. Let us in our requests, both for others and for ourselves, come to our heavenly Father, confiding in his power and goodness.<sup>7</sup>
- **John Wesley wrote** (Luke 11: 1-4)
  - “Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples - The Jewish masters used to give their followers some short form of prayer, as a peculiar badge of their relation to them. This it is probable John the Baptist had done. And in this sense it seems to be that the disciples now asked Jesus, to teach them to pray. Accordingly he here repeats that form, which he had before given them in his sermon on the mount, and likewise enlarges on the same head, though still speaking the same things in substance. And this prayer uttered from the heart, and in its true and full meaning, is indeed the badge of a real Christian: for is not he such whose first and most ardent desire is the glory of God, and the happiness of man by the coming of his kingdom? Who asks for no more of this world than his daily bread, longing meantime for the bread that came down from heaven? And whose only desires for himself are forgiveness of sins, (as he heartily forgives others), and sanctification.<sup>2</sup> When ye pray, say - And what he said to them is undoubtedly said to us also. We are therefore here directed, not only to imitate this in all our prayers, but to use this very form of prayer. Matt.vi, 9.4. Forgive us; for we forgive them - Not once, but continually. This does not denote the meritorious cause of our pardon; but the removal of

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<sup>7</sup> Matthew Henry Commentary by Matthew Henry

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that hindrance which otherwise would render it impossible.”<sup>8</sup>

- E.M. Bounds wrote ...
  - “The more praying there is in the world the better the world will be, the mightier the forces against evil everywhere. Prayer, in one phase of its operation, is a disinfectant and a preventive. It purifies the air; it destroys the contagion of evil. Prayer is no fitful, short-lived thing. It is no voice crying unheard and unheeded in the silence. It is a voice which goes into God’s ear, and it lives as long as God’s ear is open to holy pleas, as long as God’s heart is alive to holy things.”<sup>9</sup>

“All Men are capable of prayer; and therefore this is dreadful misfortune that as a general thing almost all person do imagine that they are not called to prayer, but we are called to prayer, like we are all called to salvation!”

“Madame Guyon”

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<sup>8</sup> Wesley's Notes on the Bible by John Wesley

<sup>9</sup>Purpose in Prayer by E.M. Bounds,

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# Teaching/Discussion Outline

*The disciple's request—*

*“Lord, teach us to pray,” v.1*

**We are commanded to pray (1 Thess. 5:17)**

- We need to desire to learn to pray
- We need to spend time praying

***“To glorify God is better than to idolize gifts” Smith Wigglesworth***

**? How important do you feel that prayer is in your own personal life?**

**? How much time do you spend praying a day? Do you feel that this is enough time?**

## **Holy meditation**

- Upon God as the hearer of prayer
- Upon men as the subjects of prayer
- Upon God's promises as the grounds of prayer
- Upon the Lord Jesus as the intercessor
- Upon the Holy Spirit as our helper in prayer<sup>10</sup>

**? When you pray do you also spend time meditating on the word of God?**

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<sup>10</sup> Lectures in Pastoral Theology by R. J. George  
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*The pattern prayer: prayer's agenda—vv.  
2-4*

***“Wishing will never be a substitute for prayer” ... Ed  
Cole***

***Time of Exalting*** (Lifting the up the King of King)

- One pastor friend described it like ... “a little boy crawling on his daddy’s lap, telling him how awesome he is, how much he loves him, and continuing to love him as long as he can!”
- [The Son here prays for his glorification, viz.: resurrection, ascension, coronation, etc., that through these He may be perfected as a Savior and be enabled to give that eternal life unto millions, the bestowal of which will rebound unto the glory of the Father. Moreover, the glorification of Christ revealed His divine nature, and the Father was glorified by it thus becoming apparent that He had bestowed upon the world so priceless a gift. The gift of authority was bestowed after the resurrection (Matt. xxviii. 18). All humanity was given into His hands that He might give life to that part of it which yielded itself to Him in true discipleship.]<sup>11</sup>

**? What are some of the words and  
phrases that you use to exalt God?**

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<sup>11</sup>McGarvey, J. W. The Four-Fold Gospel The Standard Publishing Company, 1914

### ***Time of Confessing*** (I'm sorry Lord)

- How we convey our confession (1 John 1:9),

**? What are three things that you need to bring before the Lord in prayer?**

### ***Time of Asking*** (Petitioning God)

- Requests (1 Tim. 2:1-3)

**? What are your top three prayer requests?**

- Intercessions (James 5:15)

**? Name three needs you are interceding for?**

## ***Some personal requirements of prayer:***

- o A pure heart (Psalm 66:18)
- o Belief in Christ (John 14:12-14)
- o That the prayer be according to God's will (1 John 5:14)
- o How we can pray standing (Neh. 9:5), kneeling (Ezra 9:5), sitting (1 Chron. 17:16-27), bowing (Exodus 34:8), and with lifted hands (1 Tim. 2:8)
- o Commanded to have Private Prayer ( Mt 6:6)

**? As you read the list above, would you agree with this list or add anything to it?**

## *The disciple's motivation for prayer vv. 5-13*

### **? What is your motivation to prayer?**

- Luke 11: 5-13 ...shares with us an awesome explanation and motivation of the Lord's teaching on the Lord's Prayer.
  - 5 Then Jesus said to them, "Suppose you have a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; 6 a friend of mine on a journey has come to me, and I have no food to offer him.' 7 And suppose the one inside answers, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up and give you anything.' 8 I tell you, even though he will not get up and give you the bread because of friendship, yet because of your shameless audacity[e] he will surely get up and give you as much as you need. 9 "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. 11 "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for[f] a fish, will give him a snake instead? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 13 If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"



# Great Quotes on Prayer

- † Arthur Wellesley stated ... “The Lord’s prayer contains the sum total of religion and morals.”
- † Corrie ten Boom stated ... “Any concern too small to be turned into a prayer is too small to be made into a burden.”
- † Unknown author wrote .... When at night you cannot sleep, talk to the Shepherd and stop counting sheep.
- † Walter A. Mueller stated... Prayer is not merely an occasional impulse to which we respond when we are in trouble: prayer is a life attitude.
- † Abraham Lincoln stated .... I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go.
- † Martin Luther stated ... The shorter the prayer the better the prayer.
- † Benjamin Franklin ... “Work as you were to live a 100 years, pray as if you were going to die tomorrow”
- † Dr. R. G. Lee<sup>12</sup>- “Prayer is the highest of all our privileges as followers of Jesus. Of that privilege no human power can deprive us. Let us prize it highly and prove it thoroughly in these serious days through which we are passing.”<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>12</sup>Robert Green Lee was born in South Carolina, November 11, 1886, and died July 20, 1978. In 1927 Lee was called to pastor Bellevue Baptist Church of Memphis, TN. Lee would stay 33 years at Bellevue, not retiring until 1960. During his pastorate at Bellevue, its membership grew from 1,430 members to 10,000 members.

<sup>13</sup><http://www.geocities.com/cobblestoneministries/2006/FamousChristianQuotes2.html>

A friend shared this anagram

# PUSH

Pray until something happens!

## ***The Author of this study-guide:***

Rev Don Allen, Jr, PhD, is an Educator with Allen Continuity Solutions, He has been involved in Pastoral Ministries for 40 years and has been a Christian Counselor and Alcohol & Drug counselor for over 28 years.

Dr. Allen is a Certified Christian Counselor, Certified Chaplain, and Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor. He holds a PhD in Psychology and Christian Counseling from Louisiana Baptist University, a D.Litt., and PhD in Pastoral Theology from St. Alcuin House Seminary